

# BizNGO 2021 Annual Meeting

Transparency & Justice Rising



# Thank you Sponsors!



# Virtual Meeting Overview

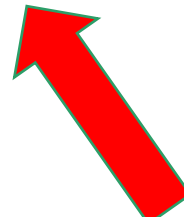
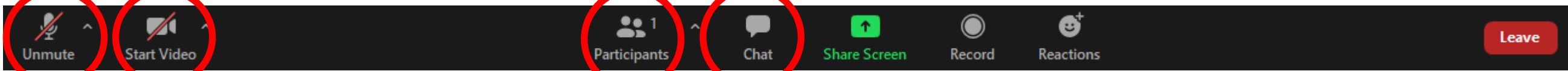
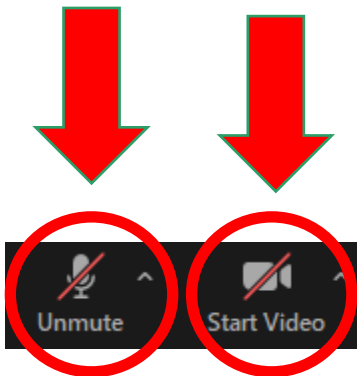
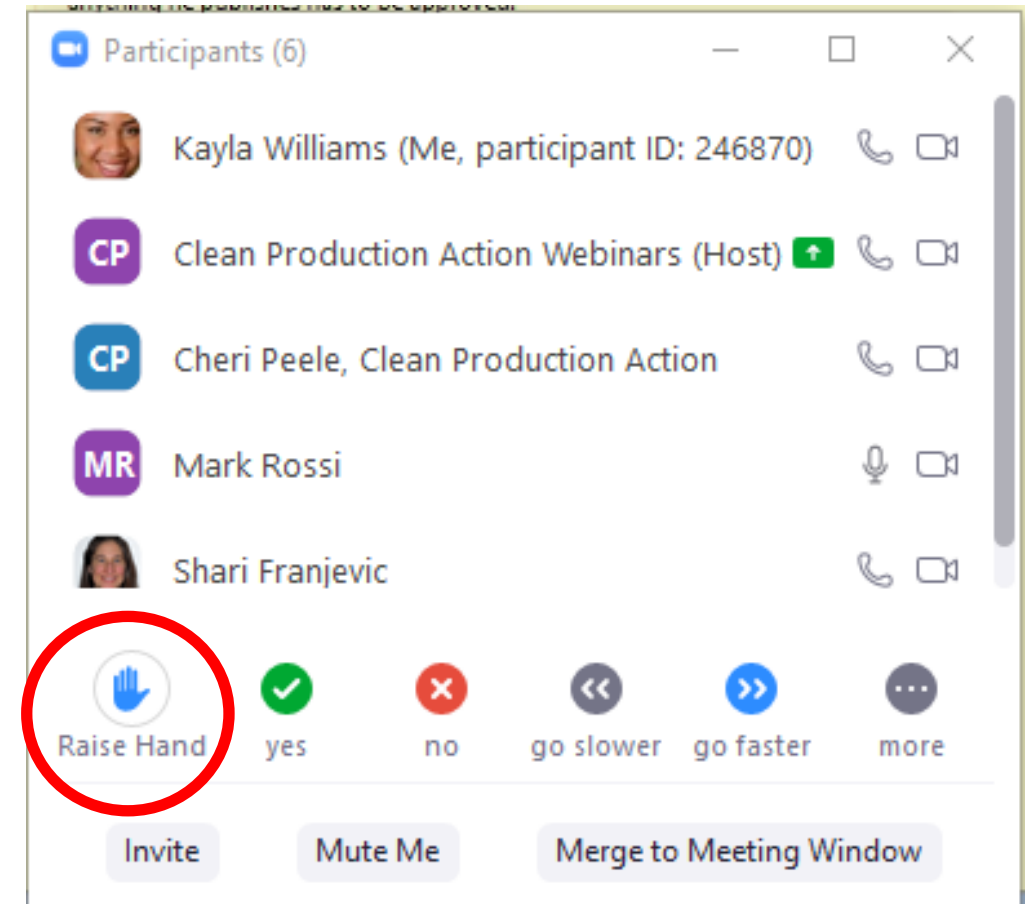
5 Sessions / 2 days

1. Addressing Environmental Justice Through Chemicals Management (December 7 @ 11am-2pm EST)
2. Transparency: Disclosing Chemicals in Products & Supply Chains (December 7 @ 3pm-6pm EST)
3. Safer Chemicals in Manufacturing (December 8 @ 11am-12:30pm EST)
4. Standards, Indexes, & Purchasers Tracking Corporate Progress to Safer Chemicals (December 8 @ 1:30pm-3pm EST)
5. Circularity & Toxics: Bringing Chemical Safety to Closed Loop Systems (December 8 @ 4pm-5:30pm EST)



# Zoom Protocol

- Enter participant ID if calling in
- Rename yourself to include your organization
- Raise hand to speak
- Chat for questions/comments
- Mute yourself
- Feel free to show video
- Only presentations recorded



# Chatham House Rule



Participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed; unless approved by the participant

# Session 4

## *Standards, Indexes, & Purchasers Tracking Corporate Progress to Safer Chemicals*

# Speakers



**Susan Wilburn**  
International Sustainability Director,  
Health Care Without Harm



**Constantina Bichta**  
Associate Director of ESG Research,  
Boston Common Asset Management



**Mellissa Nguyen**  
Senior Program Manager,  
Environmentally Preferred Sourcing,  
Vizient



# Session 4 Agenda

1:30 Presentations

Susan Wilburn

Constantina Bichta

Mellissa Nguyen

2:05 Questions & Answers

2:15 Small groups

2:45 Report backs & wrap up

3:00 Adjourn





# Sustainable Procurement Index Health

Susan Wilburn, BScN, MPH

8 December 2021

# Outline

- Sustainable Health in Procurement Project (SHiPP)
- Health Care Without Harm's Global Green and Healthy Hospitals Ten Goal Agenda
- SHiPP Sustainable Procurement Index Health (SPIH)



# Sustainable Health in Procurement Project (SHiPP)

Reducing harm to people and the environment caused by the manufacture, distribution, use and disposal of medical products and through the implementation of health programmes in developing countries



## Objective 1

Develop universally adaptable criteria and standards for sustainable manufacturing, distribution and content of products procurement by the health sector

**The Sustainable Procurement Index Health is the key outcome of Objective 1**



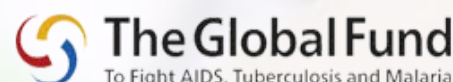
- ✓ Established in 2012, SPHS brings together seven United Nations agencies and three global health financing institutions, committed to introducing sustainable procurement in the global health sector and beyond.
- ✓ The SPHS annual cumulative purchasing power is around US\$5 billion, which represents a sizable portion of the global pharmaceutical and other health products markets.

The common principles of procurement that are important in the UN procurement system are:

1. Best value for money
2. Fairness, integrity and transparency
3. Effective international competition, and
4. The interests of the United Nations.



*Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.*





1,520 members in 75 countries representing over 40,000 health care facilities\*

### US and Canada

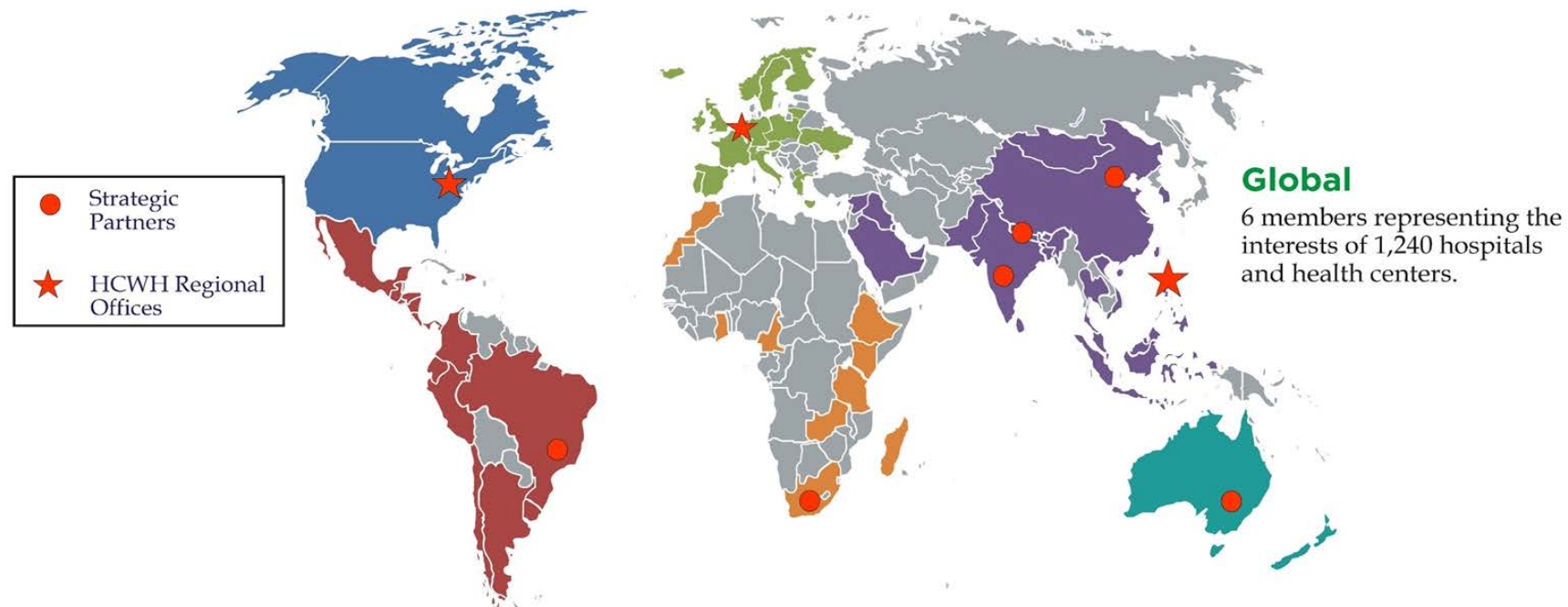
21 members representing the interests of 3,796 hospitals and health centers.

### Europe

110 members representing the interests of 10,581 hospitals and health centers.

### Asia

219 members representing the interests of 15,225 hospitals and health centers.



### Latin America

830 members representing the interests of 5,686 hospitals and health centers.

### Africa

99 members representing the interests of 6,032 hospitals and health centers.

### Pacific

92 members representing the interests of 1,177 hospitals and health centers.

\*October 2021

# SDGs and GGHH Goals

## Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



**Good Health and Well-Being (Goal 3), Target 3.9:**  
By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination;



Leadership



Chemicals



Waste



Energy



Water



Transportation



Food



Pharmaceuticals



Buildings



Purchasing



**Responsible Consumption and Production (Goal 12), Target 12.4:**  
By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.



### Climate Action (Goal 13)

Target 13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries

13.3 Improve . . . institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning



Saving lives  
Sustainably  
GLOBAL FORUM 2020

# Sustainable Procurement Index Health

“...the **Sustainable Procurement Index for Health** is a globally established, recognized and adaptable measurement tool for *policy makers, manufacturers, suppliers, procurers, and healthcare facilities end users.*

- provide an incentive for entities to improve their environmental and social sustainability record.
- to monitor
  - **(I) Greenhouse gas emissions,**
  - **(II) resource depletion** (water, energy and material consumption),
  - **(III) chemical/toxic impact** on human health and the environment, and
  - **(IV) human, labour rights and gender equality.”**



## United Nations Development Programme

Consultancy for the Development of a Sustainability  
Procurement Index for Health



ARUP

Ergon





Saving *lives*  
Sustainably  
GLOBAL FORUM 2020

To accelerate sustainable procurement in the health sector, by

- Supporting the **decision making** of buyers, and **providing certainty** to suppliers
- Provide a **robust and transparent** method, that clearly **communicates expectations** for supply chain performance
- Being **proportionate and relevant**, respecting the materiality and capability in the supply chain
- Not just focus on risk, but provide **clear pathways** for stakeholders to improve their performance



## United Nations Development Programme

Consultancy for the Development of a Sustainability  
Procurement Index for Health



ARUP

Ergon







# Where in procurement?

- Based on the feedback and to achieve a viable first product, the index will focus on a **use case during a specific procurement activity** (a buying event), rather than being a market monitoring tool or supplier/contract performance tool
- Aim to support ‘shaping the market’ by leveraging procurement events with long term potential to transition to a **market based/labelling scheme** type solution
- Buyer led solution will send a stronger signal for now; a supplier led solution could appear voluntary

**1.**  
Tender Developed

Requirements  
definition



Buyer decides  
Level of SPIH  
to be achieved

**2.**  
Tender Published

Preparation of  
documents



Supplier  
downloads  
SPIH from  
website. Level  
published on  
UNGM

**3.**  
Supplier submits

Receipt of  
tenders



Supplier  
completes  
SPIH

**4.**  
Buyer Evaluates

Evaluation



Buyer  
determines  
which  
suppliers have  
achieved the  
relevant Level

## 1.7 How the SPIH is structured

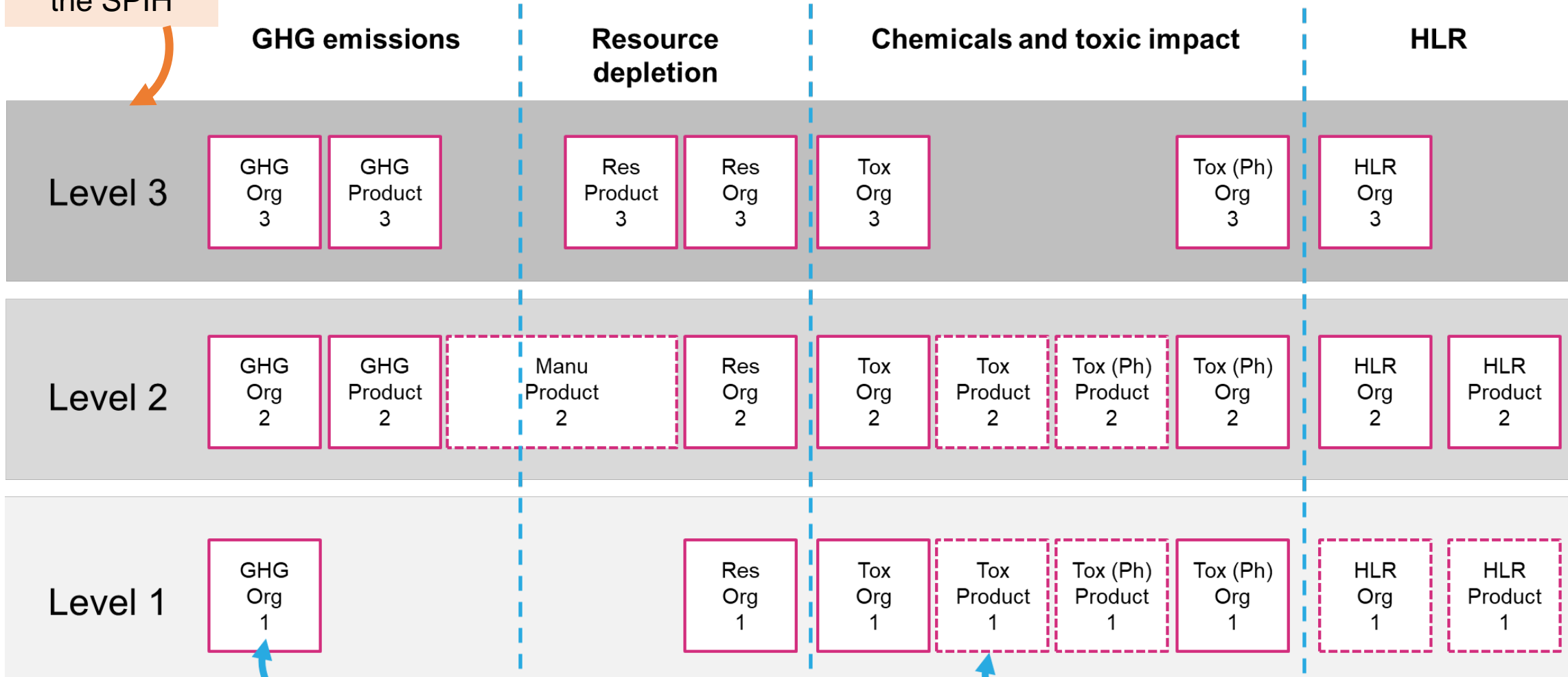
The SPIH has three main concepts:

**Levels** represent the overall way in which the SPIH is organised. **Level 1** represents baseline performance, and **level 3** represents leading performance. Within each **level** are a set of **modules** linked to the sustainability themes.

**Modules** are collections of **questions** which are linked to one of the sustainability themes. Each **module** has been designed to focus with either an organisational or product focus. A module at **level 1** has different questions to a module at **level 3**.

**Questions** are what the supplier responds to. Most questions are multiple choice, and have a specific weighting within the **module**. Some questions also require the provision of supporting evidence.

The levels of the SPIH



GHG = greenhouse gases  
Res = resources  
Tox = chemicals and toxic impact  
HLR = human and labour rights  
Manu = manufacturing  
Org = organisation  
Ph = pharmaceutical-related

Within each module, a set of indicators

Dashes indicate that some modules would likely be subject to a geographic or product filter

# 1.10 The tool

The Index is provided as an **Excel-based Tool** and web-based tool.

210222 Beta SPIH\_All products.xlsx - Excel

File Home Insert Draw Page Layout Formulas Data Review View Developer Help ProjectWise OvaExcel Search

A1 SPIH BETA INDEX

General

**SPIH BETA INDEX**

Scoring hierarchy

A Each 'module' is weighted equally - each has to be 'passed' - this means themes are not weighted against each other  
 B Within each module, there are questions and these can be weighted if required  
 C Each question then has scoring

Theme	Status	Level achieved
Level 1	PASS	Level 2
Level 2	PASS	
Level 3	Not passed	

Module tables

Theme	Level	Scope	Relevance	Questions	Max score	Pass score	Score achieved	Status
GHG emissions	1	Org	All organisations	2	20.00	10.00	10.00	PASS
GHG emissions	2	Org	All organisations	4	20.00	10.00	10.00	PASS
GHG emissions	3	Org	All organisations	4	20.00	10.00	7.50	Not passed
GHG emissions	2	Product	All products	1	20.00	10.00	10.00	PASS
GHG emissions	3	Product	All products	1	20.00	10.00	10.00	PASS

Theme	Level	Scope	Relevance	Questions	Max score	Pass score	Score achieved	Status
Resource depletion	1	Org	All organisations	2	30.00	15.00	20.00	PASS
Resource depletion	2	Org	All organisations	2	20.00	10.00	13.33	PASS
Resource depletion	3	Org	All organisations	4	20.00	10.00	20.00	PASS
Resource depletion	2	Manuf	All products	11	21.28	10.64	15.96	PASS
Resource depletion	3	Prod	All products	1	30.00	15.00	20.00	PASS

SPIH scoring | GHG emissions | Resource depletion | Chemicals and toxic impact | Human and labour rights

210222 Beta SPIH\_All products.xlsx - Excel

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A1 RESOURCE DEPLETION

General

**RESOURCE DEPLETION**

On this tab, the modules within the resource depletion theme are presented. For this thematic area, the modules relate to organisation and product, in addition to one module related to manufacturing. Each table represents a module with questions that need to be answered. The weight of each question and the points associated with different answers are also demonstrated.

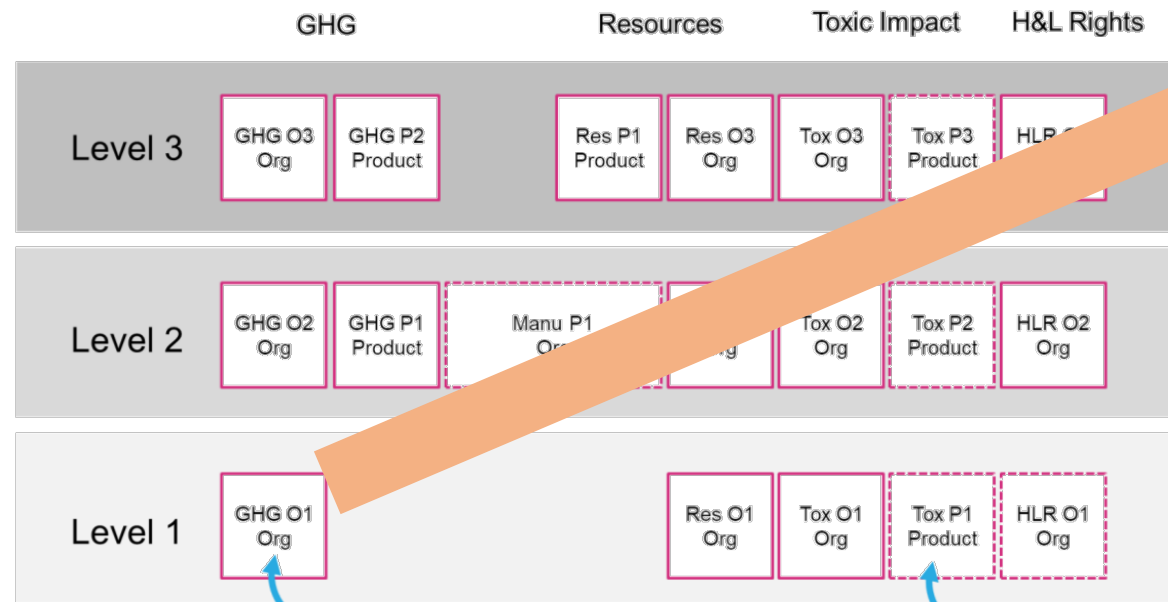
Theme	Resources
SPIH level	1
Scope	Organisation
Score method	Points
Maximum score	30
Module pass criteria	15

SPIH level	Question	Q Weighting (100%)	Supplier Response	Required evidence	Supplier Response
Laws and regulations	Are there any national laws or regulations which you have to follow related to GHGs?	0%	No	N/A	
Policy	Do you have environmental policies or plans in place which address key resource efficiency aspects relevant to your business?	50%	No, but currently developing one	Environmental Policies/Plans	
Governance	Do you have a person responsible for key resource depletion aspects relevant to your business?	50%	Yes, at the operational level and the senior/board level	N/A	

SPIH scoring | GHG emissions | Resource depletion | Chemicals and toxic impact | Human and labour rights



# Criteria development



Within each module, a set of indicators

Dashes indicate that some modules would likely be subject to a geographic or product filter

Theme	Question	Weighting	Criteria / response	Score
Scope	Do you measure your Scope 1 & 2 GHG footprint?	50%	No	0
			Yes, following a recognised methodology [from list]	20
			Yes, following another methodology	10
Reporting	Do you report your GHG footprint?	50%	No	0
			The results are published internally	10
			They are provided on request	10
			Yes, they are published on our website	30

# The Chemicals criteria (General)

- The Chemicals section of the SPIH contains modules for **all products** used in health care (excluding pharmaceutical products).
- These modules aim to establish the **supplier's capacity** to understand, manage and reduce **its own use** of toxic chemicals in products, operations, and **supply chains**.
- The themes covered in the **SPIH Chemicals modules** include:
  - Corporate chemicals management policies, procedures, and practices
  - Restricted substances lists (RSLs) and manufacturing RSLs (MRSLs)
  - Certifications achieved

Theme	Level	Scope	Relevance	Questions	Max score	Pass score
Chemicals and toxic impact	1	Organisation	All organisations	3	20.00	10.00
Chemicals and toxic impact	2	Organisation	All organisations	4	20.00	10.00
Chemicals and toxic impact	3	Organisation	All organisations	3	20.00	10.00
Chemicals and toxic impact	1	Product	All products	1	20.00	10.00
Chemicals and toxic impact	2	Product	All products	2	20.00	10.00

# Toxic Impact: Organisation

Level	Restricted Substances List (RSL) / Manufacturing RSL (MRSL)	Corporate Chemicals Policy	Chemical Footprint Project (CFP) Survey or equivalent	Goal(s)	Transparency of chemicals in products
<b>Level 1</b>	RSL: Substances restricted in European Union (EU)	<b>Avoid chemicals of high concern</b>	<b>Participate in CFP Survey</b> or equivalent		
<b>Level 2</b>	RSL: <b>Implemented EU RSL</b> in all products	<b>Prefer safer alternatives</b>	Publicly <b>disclose CFP Score</b>	<b>Reduce chemicals of high concern beyond EU regulations</b>	
<b>Level 3</b>	RSL or MRSL includes <b>one chemical class</b> : PFAS, phthalates, +/- or bisphenols			Publicly <b>disclose annual progress to goal(s)</b>	<b>Publicly disclose 95% by weight</b> of chemical substances intentionally added to the product

# Toxicity: Product

Level	Product Restricted Substances List (RSL)	Product Certification
<b>Level 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>POPs:</b> Stockholm Convention</li> <li>• <b>Mercury:</b> Minamata Convention</li> <li>• <b>10 Chemicals of Major Public Health Concern:</b> WHO</li> <li>• <b>Ozone Depleting Substances:</b> Montreal Protocol</li> <li>• <b>Pesticides &amp; Industrial Chemicals</b> listed in Annex III of Rotterdam Convention</li> </ul>	
<b>Level 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Carpets:</b> Health Care Without Harm (HCWH) RSL</li> <li>• <b>Cleaning chemicals:</b> HCWH RSL</li> <li>• <b>Flooring:</b> HCWH RSL</li> <li>• <b>Furniture &amp; furnishings:</b> HCWH RSL</li> <li>• <b>Gloves:</b> HCWH RSL</li> <li>• <b>Hand hygiene products:</b> HCWH RSL</li> <li>• <b>Medical products:</b> HCWH RSL</li> <li>• <b>Sterilants &amp; disinfectants:</b> HCWH RSL</li> <li>• <b>Other products:</b> Practice Greenhealth Standardized Environmental Criteria</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Blue Angel</b></li> <li>• <b>Cradle to Cradle Certified™</b> (silver or higher)</li> <li>• <b>EU Ecolabel</b></li> <li>• <b>Furniture &amp; furnishings:</b> ANSI/BIFMA Furniture Sustainability Standard; Greenhealth Approved; or GreenScreen Certified</li> <li>• <b>Medical products:</b> EU GPP Criteria for Electrical and Electronic Equipment used in the Health Care Sector</li> <li>• <b>Nordic Swan</b></li> <li>• <b>Swedish National Agency for Public Procurement Sustainability Criteria</b></li> </ul>



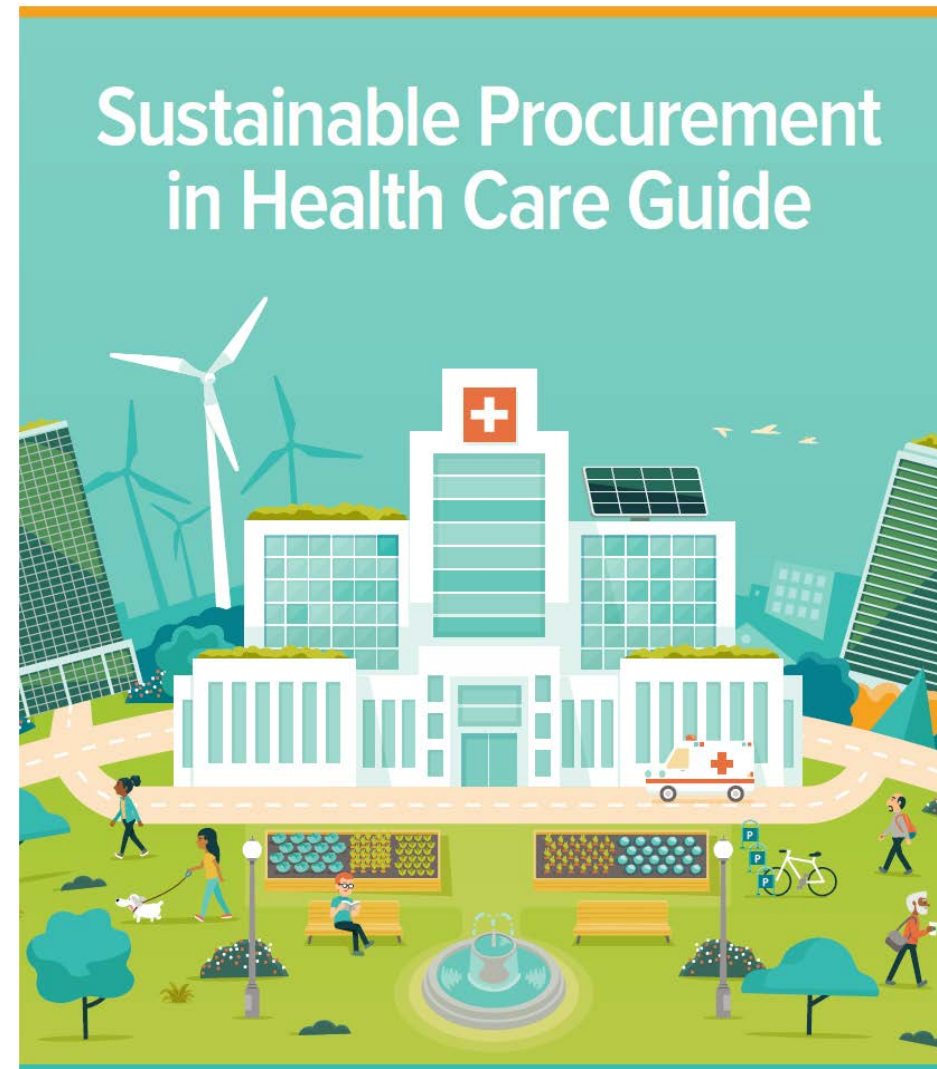
# Through our work on Sustainable Health in Procurement we have changed procurement practices



**18** National and subnational Policies and strategies developed in China, Tanzania, Vietnam, RSA, India, China, Colombia, Indonesia, Chile, Philippines.

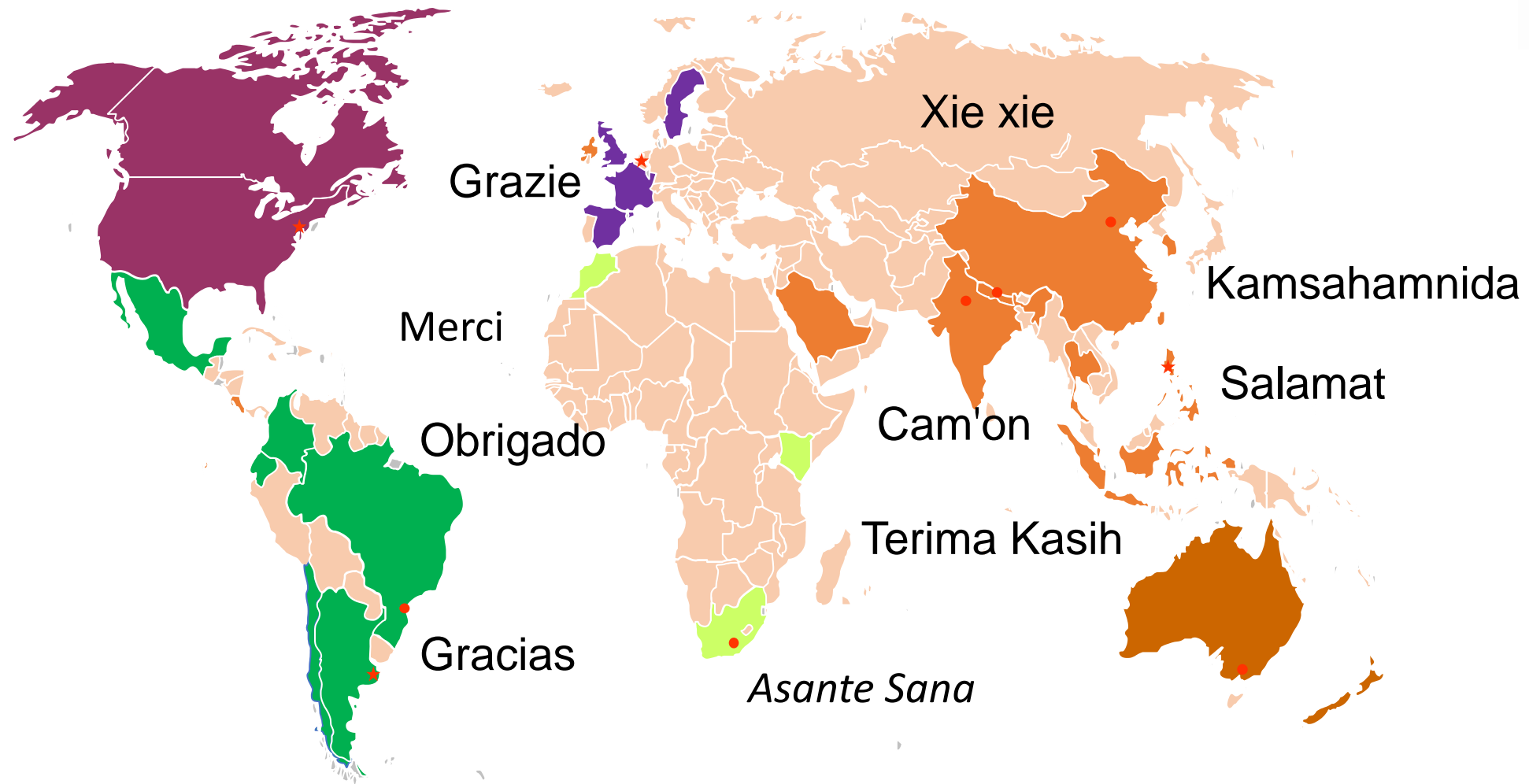
**15** Guidance Developed globally and in Argentina, Brazil, China, India and South Africa,

**7** countries Profiles for COVID-19 with Policy recommendations **for Health Care Waste Management**



**12** healthcare products, hazardous chemicals and single use plastics identified and substituted with safer alternatives including for Hand Hygiene, Surface Instruments, laundry and cleaning, Anesthetic gases and lab chemicals, fleet vehicle, PPEs -masks and gowns.

**10** Countries use [High Impact Procurement Opportunities](#) (HIPO) list for carbon reduction in the Health sector



THANK YOU



**Boston Common**  
Asset Management

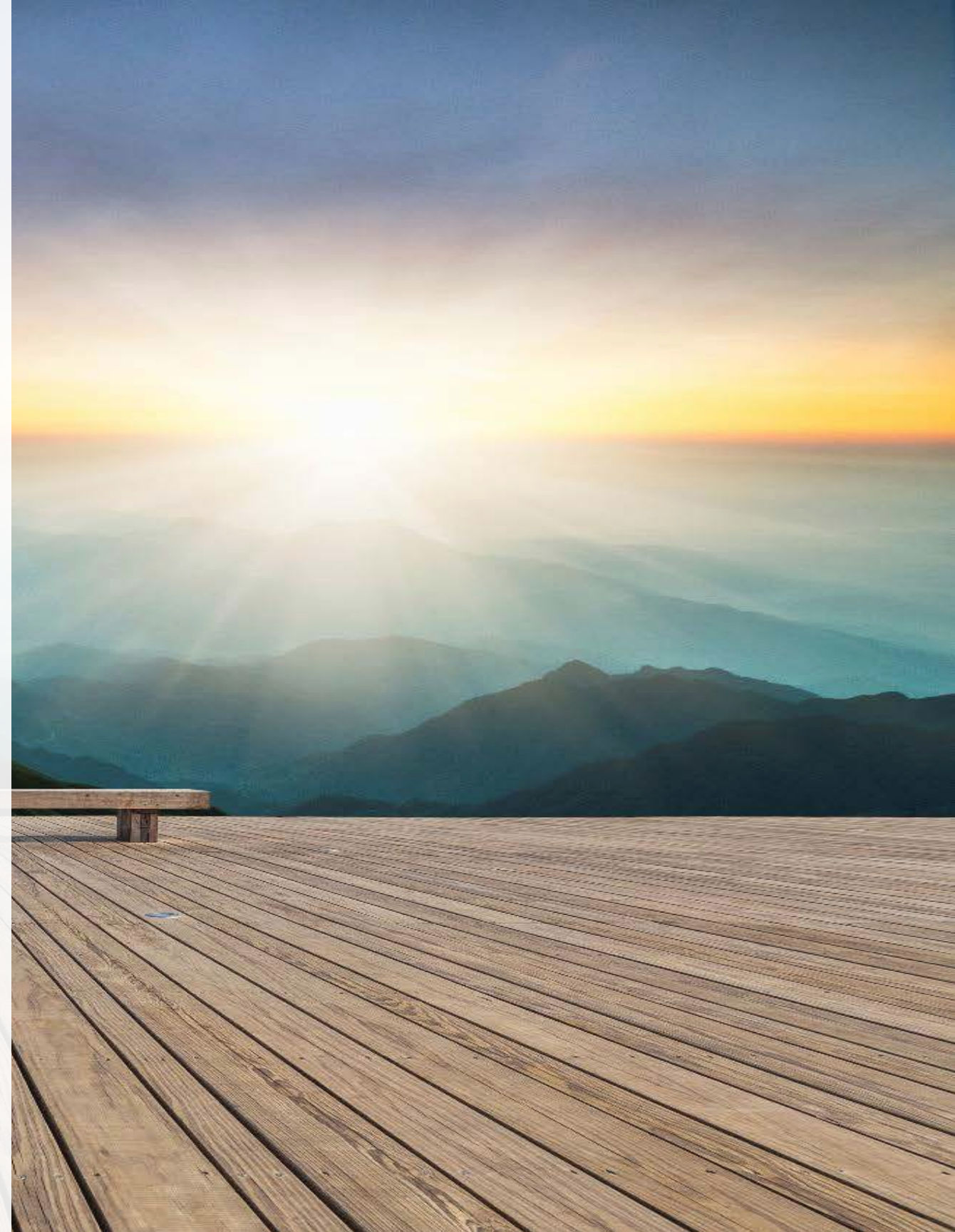
## Key Performance Indicators of Interest to Investors in Chemical Safety

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Constantina Bichta, PhD  
BizNGO Annual Meeting  
December 08, 2021

**Boston • San Francisco**

[www.bostoncommonasset.com](http://www.bostoncommonasset.com) [invest@bostoncommonasset.com](mailto:invest@bostoncommonasset.com)



# My Focus

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- ✓ Broader talk about issues we are tracking relative to chemical safety
- ✓ Select reference of KPIs for tracked issues
- ✓ Engagement examples with issues and KPIs in action

# Boston Common Asset Management

## Who We Are



**Boutique** global equity manager dedicated to **integrated ESG IMPACT** investing since 2003



**WOMEN-LED**  
Majority **WOMEN & EMPLOYEE-OWNED**



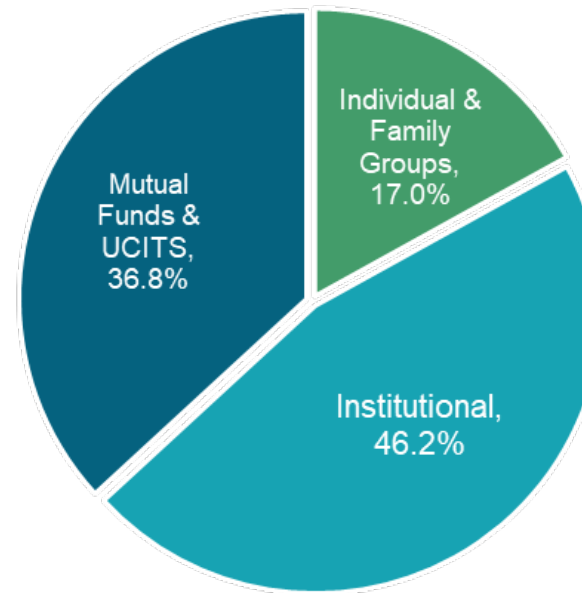
**A+ Rating**  
Rated **A+** by UN PRI for 5 consecutive years (2015 – 2019)\*\*\*



Approximately **\$5.7 billion** in assets under management\*

## ESG Leadership & Responsible Investment Expertise

### Our Clients



### NET ZERO ASSET MANAGERS INITIATIVE

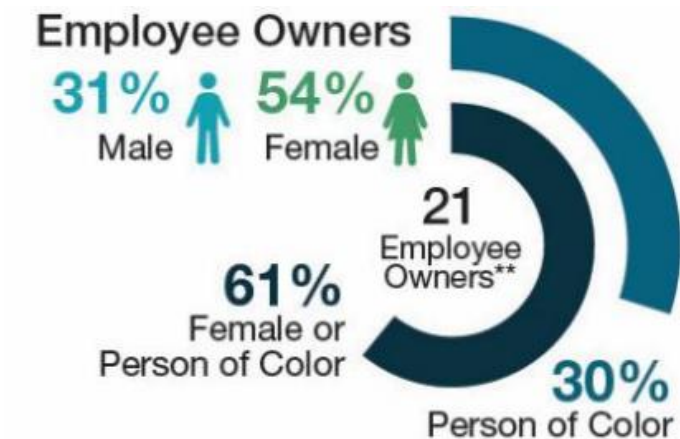
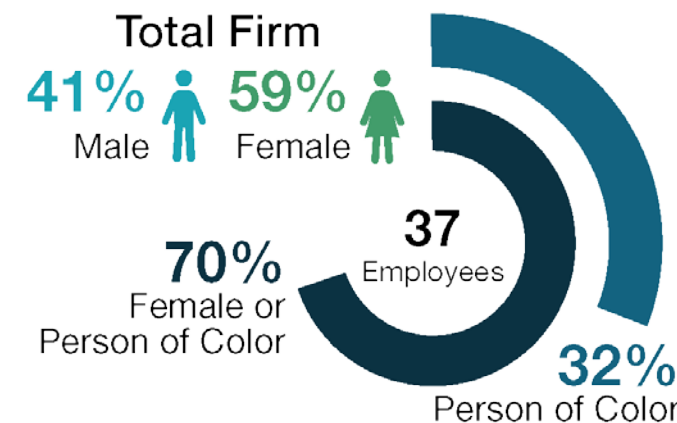
Committed to transitioning portfolios to net-zero GHG emissions and aligning with a 1.5° Celsius scenario by 2050.



Core member of the Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials.



### Organizational Diversity

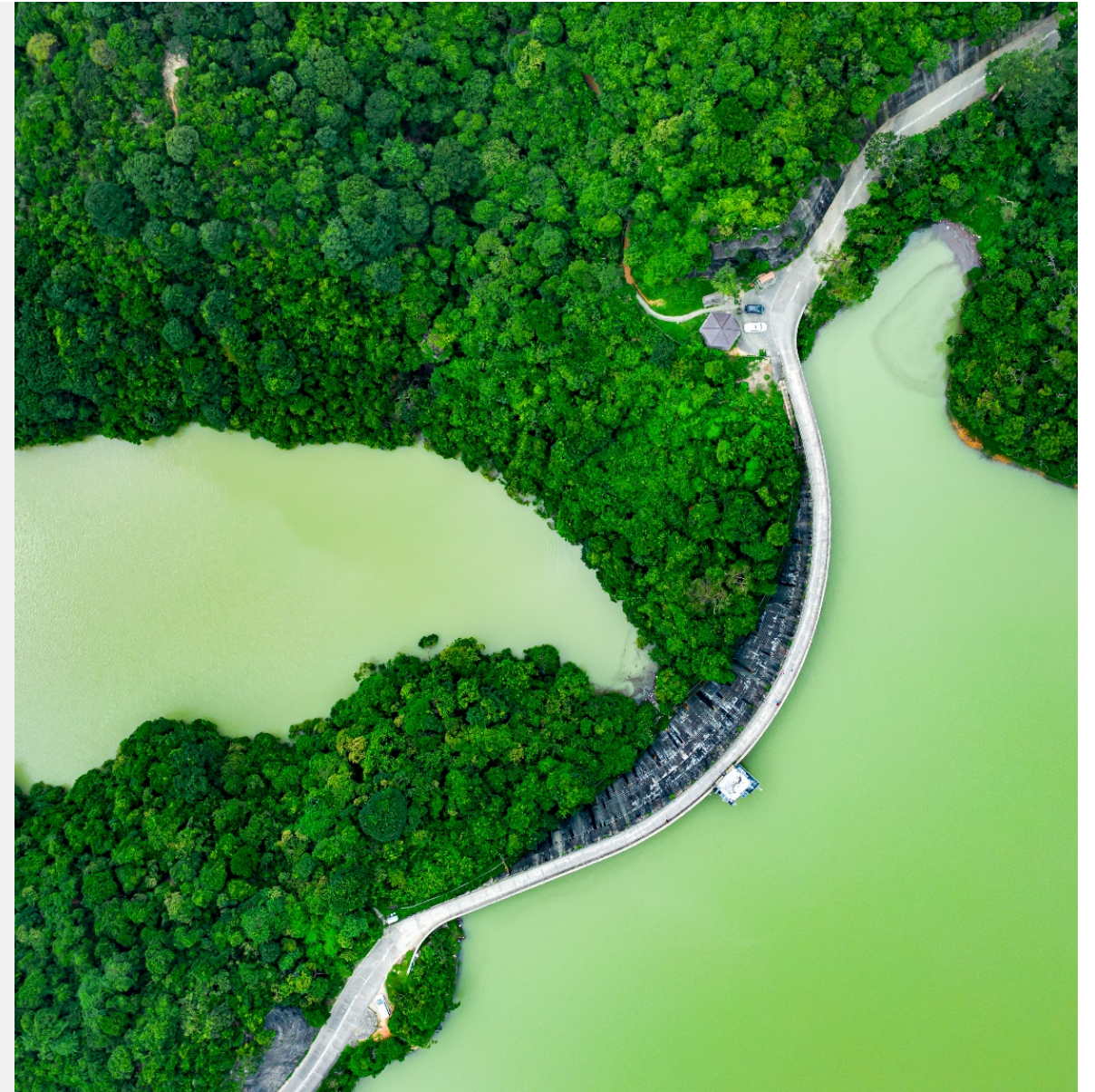


\*AUM as of 9/30/2021 \*\*Represents the absolute percentage of Class A employee owners, which account for 85% total ownership of the firm. Class B shares are held by a single, private outside entity and represent 15% ownership of the firm, as of 2/1/2021. \*\*\*Principles for Responsible Investment Assessment Reports demonstrate how a signatory has progressed year-on-year and relative to peers. The PRI did not publish assessment reports publicly from 2015-2019. PRI signatories may share their reports, per PRI guidelines. For more information, see: <https://www.unpri.org/annual-report-2019>.

# Holistic Approach to Safer Chemicals

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- Invest in companies providing solutions to the world's environmental and social challenges
- Engage companies to improve Policies, Processes, and Products in relation to safer chemicals
- Support the development of frameworks that help investors track corporate progress to safer chemicals



# Key issues & KPIs

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Climate Change and Earth Renewal

Health, Wellness and Community Wellbeing

Diversity and Inclusion

Circular Economy and Waste



# Value Chain Approach

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## Policies

- Policies and engagement to reduce and/or eliminate product toxicity
- Green design practices to eliminate or replace toxicants in products with non-toxic alternatives
- Sourcing natural inputs and ingredients in product manufacture
- Nutrition and health benefits of food and beverage products

## Products

- Products, technologies, and services that promote a circular economy
- Materials that support green infrastructure
- Products and services that reduce waste and emissions (e.g., low-impact refrigerants)
- Avoid products with restricted or controversial chemicals (HFCs, BPA, PFAS)

## Practices

- History and pattern of pollution of air, water, or land
- A company's total pollution and relative performance (e.g., Top 100 polluters for toxic air releases)



# Engagement Highlights

## Croda International Plc: Biodiversity, Earth Renewal, Climate Change

- Producer of bio-based raw materials for personal care and life sciences
- 2030 target to use 75% of bio-based materials; currently at 60%.
- Discussions with the company on efforts to be **Climate Positive and Land Positive**

## WestRock Company: Community Wellbeing, Environmental Justice

- The largest paper recycler in North America
- Westrock's paper **fiber-based packaging** is an innovative and sustainable alternative to plastic packaging
- Discussions with the company on efforts to reduce **water and air emissions**

## Carrier Global Corporation: Climate Change, Earth Renewal

- Manufactures and distributed a suite of energy- efficient HVAC solutions, including nature-based technologies
- Discussions with the company on **low global warming potential products** as a proportion of the total product portfolio

## The UN PRI Plastic Investor Working Group: Circular Economy, Waste

- Eliminate problematic or unnecessary plastics and ensure remaining plastics are reusable, recyclable, or compostable
- Circular economy to keep plastics out of the environment
- Ensure all plastic packaging is **free of hazardous chemicals, and the health, safety, and rights of people** across the value chain are respected

# Frameworks we support

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The Chemicals Footprint Project (CFP)

Silicon Valley Toxics Collation (SVTC)

The Access to Nutrition Initiative Global Index (ATNI)



**Thank you!**

Constantina Bichta  
cbichta@bostoncommonasset.com

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**Certified**



**Corporation**



**2021**

**Boston Common is proud to be a Certified B Corporation®**

B Corporations are leaders of the global movement of people using business as a force for good™. Certified B Corporations meet higher standards of social and environmental performance, transparency, and accountability. The performance standards B Corps meet are comprehensive, transparent and verified. They measure a company's impact on all its stakeholders (e.g. workers, suppliers, community, customers and the environment). B Corps are important because they inspire all businesses to compete not only to be the best in the world, but to be the best *for* the world.



Boston Common was the first asset manager in North America to join Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF), a global industry-led initiative for financial institutions to measure and disclose the greenhouse gas emissions of their investments. PCAF is a collaborative platform that allows us to learn from other members on best practices for carbon accounting. The goal is to work together to develop a global methodology that is transparent and uniformed so carbon accounting becomes a common practice within the financial sector.



# Tracking Corporate Progress to Safer Chemicals



Mellissa Nguyen  
Senior Program Services Manager  
Environmentally Preferred Sourcing Program  
[mellissa.nguyen@vizientinc.com](mailto:mellissa.nguyen@vizientinc.com)

**vizient**<sup>®</sup>

# Agenda

- Who is Vizient?
- Vizient's Environmentally Preferred Sourcing program
- Request to suppliers
- Vizient membership with vested interested in sustainable products
- Sustainable Purchasing

Power of membership

# Connecting the nation's top providers

We serve more than half of the health care organizations in the United States.

>\$110  
Billion in  
health care  
purchases

## Scalable solutions for:

- large integrated delivery networks
- academic medical centers
- community hospitals
- pediatric facilities
- non-acute care providers

## 18 of the Top 20

*US News and World Report* best hospitals rely on Vizient capabilities in supply chain, pharmacy, operations and quality, and strategic growth to drive success.

97%

Academic medical centers in the U.S.

>50%

Acute care hospitals in the U.S.

>20%

Ambulatory market in the U.S.





# Through the Environmentally Preferred Sourcing Program, Vizient provides the framework that advances your sustainability efforts and supports the improvement of human and environmental health.

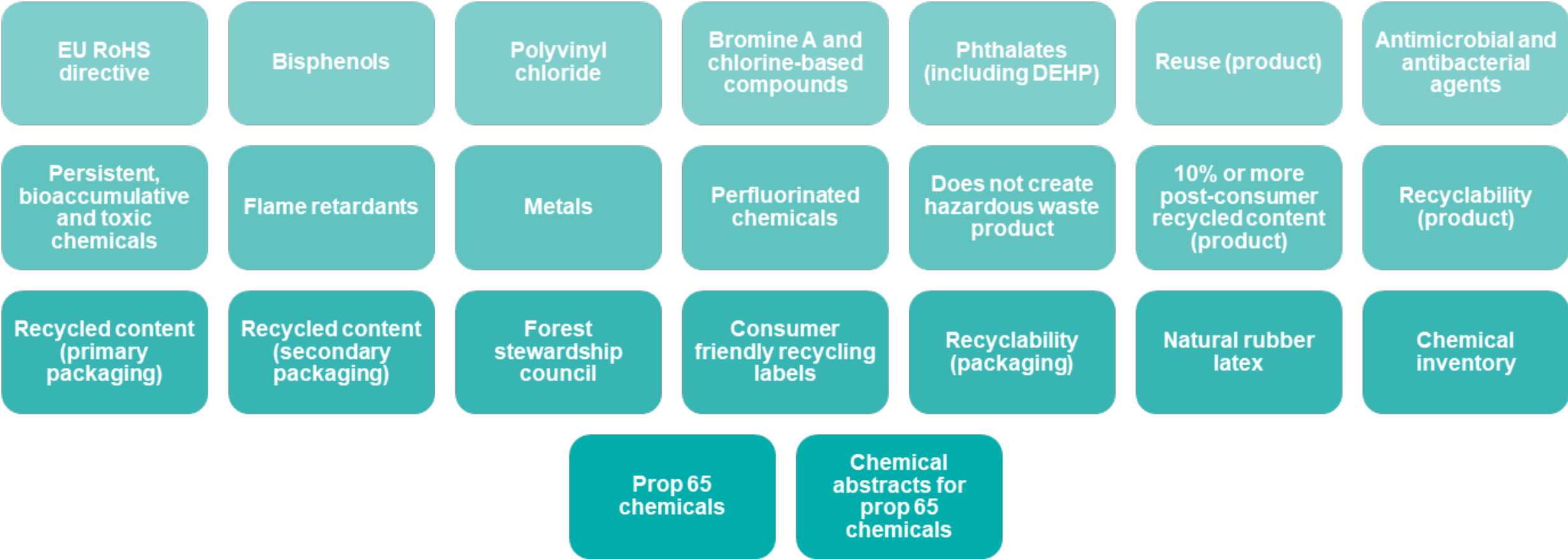
Vizient offers the broadest, most cost-effective portfolio of environmentally preferred products in the industry, data and analytics that help members make sustainable data driven purchasing decisions, and EP Advisory Solutions to help members achieve their sustainability goals.



# Environmentally preferred attributes

Since 2017, all Vizient RFPs have included **completion of environmentally preferred attribute data** as a nonfinancial scoring criterion.

Supplier attribute reporting has increased from 8% compliance in 2017 to **92% in 2021**.



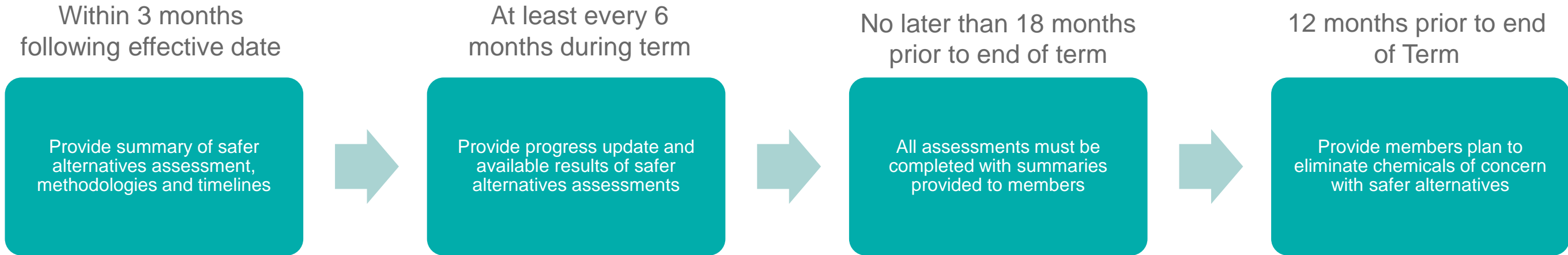
# Making data actionable

- Products and contracts with **supplier-reported attribute data** are identified in Vizient Catalog. These individual data points can also be used to filter and refine search results.
- The catalog also contains EPS **briefs**, in which all awarded suppliers have the opportunity to share details about their environmentally preferred initiatives
- Suppliers that meet defined reporting and certification standards are labeled in the catalog as **EPS Designated Suppliers**.

**Members can use all this information to support the selection of products that meet their sustainability objectives.**

# Environmentally preferred contract language

- Implemented in 2021
- Included in **96%** of medical/surgical product categories
- Reflects a more rigorous standard: Products that meet all chemical and at least two waste attributes are designated **EPP standard**
- Suppliers are asked to implement a program to identify and evaluate safer\* and reduced waste alternatives when EP attributes are not met



\*A safer alternative is one that is less hazardous to human health or the environment

# Chemical Footprint Project – a free resource

**THE CFP SURVEY**  
19 questions leading companies to environmentally sound chemicals management – a holistic framework necessary for systemic solutions

- Management Strategy
- Chemical Inventory
- Footprint Measurement
- Disclosure & Verification

Responder	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
adidas AG				✓ ↓	
Ahold Delhaize	✓ ↓				
ALDI	✓ ↓				
Alima				✓ ↓	
Andersen	✓ ↓				
Angelica Corporation				✓ ↓	
Beautycounter*	✓ ↓	✓ ↓	✓ ↓	✓ ↓	✓ ↓
Becton Dickinson (BD)*	✓ ↓	✓ ↓	✓ ↓	✓ ↓	✓ ↓
Burton			✓ ↓		
California Baby			✓ ↓		✓ ↓
Case Medical*		✓ ↓	✓ ↓	✓ ↓	
Clorox Company	✓ ↓	✓ ↓			✓ ↓
Construction Specialties, Inc.	✓ ↓		✓ ↓	✓ ↓	✓ ↓
Diversey	✓ ↓	✓ ↓	✓ ↓	✓ ↓	
Dollar Tree	✓ ↓	✓ ↓			
Ecolab	✓ ↓	✓ ↓	✓ ↓		

# Request to Suppliers



Provide completed EP attributes for all products

Identify products that contain PVC and phthalates

Provide PVC-free and phthalate-free alternatives on Agreement with cross walk

Participate in the Chemical Footprint Project

# Environmental Advisory Council

## Purpose

Advise and guide Vizient's environmentally preferred sourcing strategy with a focus on identifying, vetting and encouraging the purchase of products and services that reduce harmful environmental and human health impacts in health care, while maintaining quality and affordability.

## Mission

Positively contribute to human and environmental health of the community through the adoption and advancement of environmentally preferred products and services, creating demand and lowering costs.

Members of the Environmental Advisory Council represent many of the nation's top health systems:



# Member Commitment

All members who commit to Vizient's EPS charge are encouraged to:

- Adopt Vizient's standardized environmentally preferred **attributes**, which are rooted in safer chemical utilization, waste reduction and the disclosure of product characteristics
- Collaborate and **educate suppliers** on the standardized environmentally preferred attributes and their importance
- Incorporate environmentally preferred criteria such as environmentally preferred product/service availability, environmentally preferred attribute compliance and supplier specific data into periodic **business reviews**
- Promote the **transparency** of supplier submitted data to expedite the adoption of environmentally preferred products and services

## Vizient Environmental Advisory Council members are committed to sustainability

Member input is at the heart of Vizient® supply chain contracts and programs. We rely on the insights and expertise of the experienced professionals on our Environmental Advisory Council to guide our environmentally preferred sourcing strategy. The members of the council – who influence over **\$17.6 billion** in collective annual spend – are encouraging all Vizient members to bolster their focus on prioritizing products that are safer for human and environmental health.



Members of the council are sustainability experts who are committed to leveraging purchases to prioritize products that are safer for human and environmental health. Along with other Vizient members, they seek to make smarter and safer purchasing decisions associated with positive health outcomes.

The council has charged all Vizient members with prioritizing the environmentally preferred initiatives described below.

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Vizient encourages all awarded suppliers to participate fully in our EP operational initiatives. For more information, [contact the Environmentally Preferred Sourcing team](#).



# Impact Purchasing Commitment (IPC)

Jun 9, 2021

In signing the Healthcare Anchor Network's (HAN) Impact Purchasing Commitment (IPC), health systems commit to aligning their power with clinical and community efforts to improve societal well-being and to catalyze prosperity for all, particularly those with a legacy of divestment and discrimination. It is estimated that in five (or 420,000) small businesses have closed during the pandemic. These closures have disproportionately impacted businesses owned by immigrants, women, and Black, Latinx, individuals, all of which have experienced higher rates of closure and sharper declines in cash balances.

Signatories commit to establishing specific goals to increase vendors that are minority and women owned, sustainable, local, and community wealth. In addition to setting these goals, signatories collect and submit data on their progress toward these goals to the Healthcare Anchor Network in order to ensure accountability and transparency.

For **supplier diversity**, most signatories individually commit to at least doubling their current Tier I non-construction spend with MWBEs within five years. Additionally, signatories are establishing MWBE goals for construction spend, and working with their top 20 Tier I vendors to gather and track Tier II data.

For **sustainability**, signatories commit to selecting a minimum of four Core Sustainability Goals, and to achieving each goal within five years. These goals were designed in partnership with Practice Greenhealth and leverage their expertise in environmentally sustainable healthcare. For more information on the specifics of the sustainability provisions, [visit their website](#).

For **community wealth building**, signatories commit to establishing and tracking progress towards five year spend goals with vendors that are (1) locally headquartered, owned, and operated (at the neighborhood or regional level), and (2) majority employee-owned, cooperatively owned and/or nonprofit-owned enterprises. Moreover, signatories commit to work with service contract vendors to pay a living local wage within five years.

Finally, signatories commit to implementing strategies, policies, and practices to incentivize internal departments, vendors, and GPOs to engage in impact purchasing. This includes aligning internal operations to support impact purchasing; engaging GPOs to support the implementation of this commitment; building capacity in diverse, local,

Many of our member hospitals have made eliminating polyvinyl chloride (PVC) and the plasticizer di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP) from clinical products and devices a top priority, by creating PVC- and DEHP-free purchasing policies as part of their larger institutional **safer chemicals policy**, and by targeting specific hospital areas, such as the NICU, or product categories one-by-one.

Switching to products that are free of both PVC and DEHP is beneficial to patient safety. The Food and Drug Administration has recommended **hospitals limit exposures** to DEHP for sensitive populations, especially male neonates and infants.

## PVC and DEHP elimination goal

**Eliminate PVC and DEHP from at least two high-priority product categories.**

We've worked with hospital and health system members to identify high-priority product categories as defined by the potential for exposures and the availability of safer alternatives, including:

- Breast pumps and accessories
- Enteral nutrition products
- Enteral tubes
- General urological supplies
- Gloves
- Parenteral infusion devices and sets
- Respiratory therapy products
- Vascular catheters

Practice Greenhealth offers step-by-step resources and product lists that will make it simpler for any hospital with a PVC and DEHP elimination goal to design, implement, and measure the success of their efforts.

# Protecting high risk patients from unsafe chemicals: IVF bag conversion

## Learning Objectives

- Identify how to use standardized, environmentally preferred attributes in value analysis.
- Discuss the methods employed to implement sustainability criteria into purchasing decisions to achieve cost savings.

## Main Project Drivers

1. Mission Alignment: People, Planet, Promise
2. Hope Care Cure for Kids
3. Removing chemicals of concern

## Background

Vizient Member sought to align two aspects of its mission: supply chain reliability and reducing Chemicals of High Concern (CoHC) in the pediatric population. Over the years, the hospital faced challenges in attempting to convert intravenous fluid (IVF) bags to a polyvinyl chloride (PVC)- and phthalate-free version due to supply issues related to natural disasters, contractual challenges and availability of products that do not contain chemicals of high concern (CoHC) that have been proven to be harmful to the pediatric patients. The organization used a standardized methodology to evaluate the new products and engage stakeholders that included clinical, operational, financial, and sustainability impact.

## Success!

Vizient Member was able to utilize its Vizient agreement to convert to a new IVF bag supplier that provides products that do not have CoHC, achieved cost savings, and manufactures these products within the continental US.

## Clinical Impact

Research reports male infants whose mothers were exposed to chemicals called phthalates during pregnancy may have a greater risk of future infertility and other reproductive health issues. (1)

The conversion of the IVF bags were a like to like conversion with minimal to no disruption to clinical practices. Pharmacy had the greatest impact in terms of supply flow and needing to enter all the new IVF bags into electronic health record software.

## Sustainability Impact

Currently there are over 85,000 synthetic chemicals being used in the United States (U.S.), yet only 1% have been tested for safety to human health. Many hazardous chemicals are commonly found in most personal care products and cosmetics, packaging and containers, as well as medical supplies and health care equipment. (2)

Different standards and definitions of chemical safety are used by HCOs nationwide, causing confusion for manufacturers, suppliers and distributors as they try to interpret and adhere to the different standards. Solution: Standardize CoHC requirements when evaluating new products during new contracting cycle.

## Like to Like Conversion



## Operational Impact

- Identify internal key stakeholders in sourcing, nursing, pharmacy, anesthesia, supply chain and home care.
  - Find a clinical project champion (nurse, physician, sustainability)
- Determine departments and end users that will be impacted.
- Determine timeline for staff education and trial of new product.

## Financial Impact

\$267K/annual savings

## Chemicals of High Concern (CoHC)

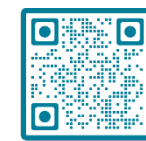
**Polyvinyl chloride (PVC):** Vinyl chloride is used primarily to make PVC, a hard plastic that is made softer and more flexible with plasticizers — the most widely used being phthalates (e.g., DEHP).

- The National Cancer Institute, the EPA, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry and the International Agency for Research on Cancer have determined that vinyl chloride is a known human carcinogen. (3, 4, 5)



**Phthalates:** Phthalates are a chemical plasticizer, they soften plastic, often PVC. They can be found in breast pumps, enteral nutrition products, enteral tubes, general urological devices, gloves, IV infusion devices and sets, respiratory therapy products and vascular catheters. They can also be found in common plastic products, such as vinyl flooring, shower curtains, toys, plastic wrap, food packaging, containers, glues, caulks, paints, personal care products and air fresheners.

- Phthalates leach from products into food, water or indoor dust and have been detected in the urine of most humans tested. (6)
- Prenatal and early life exposure to phthalates is linked to asthma, allergies, and cognitive and behavioral problems, including disruptions to reproductive development in adolescent males. (6, 7, 8)



# 360-degree value analysis addresses questions in 4 key areas

FINANCIAL	CLINICAL	OPERATIONAL	SUSTAINABILITY
<p>What is the annual impact on the cost of supplies or service?</p> <p>What is the impact on enterprise net revenue?</p> <p><u>Coverage</u>: Is the new product or service considered part of the patient's insurance benefits?</p> <p><u>Coding</u>: Is the new product or service codable?</p> <p><u>Payment</u>: Will payers cover the new product or service?</p> <p>Is the new product or service requested available on GPO contract?</p> <p>Will other supplier contracts be negatively impacted?</p> <p>Is a rebate or other value-added structure available with the supplier or vendor?</p>	<p>Are the new products certified by the FDA or Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (NIOSH)?</p> <p>How will the new product(s) or service affect current clinical outcomes?</p> <p>Will the new product(s) or service reduce variation in delivery of care?</p> <p>Will the new product(s) or service improve efficiency?</p> <p>What is the highest level of research supporting the product(s) or service?</p> <p>Does the new product(s) or service have any reported adverse events?</p> <p>What potential clinical impacts or safety risks to the patient should be considered?</p> <p>Is there shared responsibility of risk with the supplier on the new product(s) or service?</p>	<p>What departments and end users will be impacted?</p> <p>Will biomed, sterile processing or information technology (IT) be involved in any way?</p> <p>What regulatory concerns will be addressed?</p> <p>Will a trial of the new product(s) or service be needed?</p> <p>Will staff education be needed?</p> <p>Will the new product(s) involve on-site or off-site distribution?</p> <p>Will the new product(s) help reduce inventory?</p> <p>If a product conversion is involved, how much current remaining stock will need to be used?</p> <p>Will changes be needed in other platforms, such as the enterprise resource planning (ERP)/MMIS or electronic health record (EHR)?</p>	<p>What is the chemical transparency of the product(s) or service being considered?</p> <p>Does the new product(s) or service reduce patient and staff exposure to unsafe chemicals?</p> <p>Does the new product(s) or service contribute to waste reduction efforts?</p> <p>Does the supplier or vendor have a record of environmental responsibility?</p> <p>Does the supplier or vendor have a record of social responsibility?</p> <p>Is the supplier or vendor a diverse business?</p>

# Learn more on [vizientinc.com](https://vizientinc.com)

**vizient.**

## Protecting high-risk patients from unsafe chemicals in the supply chain

**What is the problem?**

*"A child born today will grow up exposed to more chemicals than a child from any other generation in our nation's history..."<sup>1</sup>*

Currently there are over 85,000 synthetic chemicals being used in the United States (U.S.), yet only 1% have been tested for safety. Many hazardous chemicals are found in personal care products, food containers, as well as medical equipment. Of the small amount of chemicals that are tested, many are linked to negative health impacts, such as cancer, developmental delays, immune system damage, and damage to the brain, lungs, kidneys, liver and reproductive system.<sup>3,4,5</sup>

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), contamination from unsafe chemicals is pervasive in society. At particularly high risk to the negative impacts of unsafe chemical exposure are pregnant women, unborn fetuses, infants and young children. The agency reported that babies born in the U.S. today have, on average, more than 280 industrial chemicals and pollutants in their bloodstreams the day they are born.<sup>1</sup> Prenatal and early life exposure to phthalates, for example, is linked to asthma, allergies, and cognitive and neurodevelopmental problems such as hyperactivity, anxiety, depression and aggression.<sup>3,4,5</sup> Phthalates have also proven to disrupt reproductive development in boys.<sup>3,4,5</sup> During pregnancy, chemicals such as lead, mercury, arsenic and cadmium have been shown to cross the placenta and fetal blood-brain barrier and disrupt critical periods of brain development. Triclosan, a common antimicrobial used in toothpaste and hand soap, has been found in the bloodstreams of over 75% of American adults and in nearly all samples of breast milk tested.<sup>6</sup>

*"Our results strongly suggest that the health of all children is threatened by trace amounts of hundreds of synthetic chemicals coursing through their bodies from the earliest stages of life..."<sup>7</sup>*

© 2021 Vizient, Inc. All rights reserved. Protecting high-risk patients from unsafe chemicals in the supply chain 1

[Download the complete case study](#)

The Vizient Newsroom continually publishes sustainability-related content from our experts

- [Blog: Health Care Sustainable Procurement: Toxic-free health care begins with the supply chain](#)
- [Blog: Improving Human and Environmental Health: A Call for Environmentally Preferred Health Care Sourcing](#)
- [Vizient news: Vizient Adds Environmentally Preferred Language to Contracts to Help Drive the Creation of Safer Health Care Products](#)
- [Vizient news: New Advisory Solution Helps Members Reduce Human and Environmental Harm, Improve Operational Performance](#)



# vizient<sup>®</sup>



Let's work together.

# 2:05 Q&A

The floor is open to ask questions to our presenters or share your thoughts/reactions to their presentations.

Indicate you have something to say by typing it in chat or raising your hand.

# Small Group Discussion

What should the key performance indicators (KPIs) be for corporations in chemicals safety?

Which KPIs for corporations in chemicals safety address environmental justice issues?

What are good metrics for tracking companies holistically towards safer chemicals in products, manufacturing, & supply chains?

Thank you for joining! Today's presentations and slides will be made available at [www.bizngo.org](http://www.bizngo.org).

Please fill out the evaluation form for this session!

Join BizNGO workgroups at [www.bizngo.org/get-involved/join-bizngo](http://www.bizngo.org/get-involved/join-bizngo).

## Up Next ...

Circularity & Toxics: Bringing Chemical Safety to Closed Loop Systems (4:00-5:30pm EST)

